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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR - LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor)

FRETILIN

PRESS RELEASE

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20th August, 1990.

MEMBERS OF THE EAST TIMORESE COMMUNITY, IN AUSTRALIA, ARE SHOCKED BY THE DECISION OF THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. HAWKE AND HIS GOVERNMENT, TO DISPATCH A NAVAL FORCE TO THE GULF AREA TO MAKE THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT COMPLY WITH THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, TO WITHDRAW ITS ARMY FROM KUWAIT. WHEN INDONESIAN ARMY INVADED AND OCCUPIED EAST TIMOR ON 7th DECEMBER 1975, THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONDEMNED THE INVASION AND OCCUPATION AND THEN PASSED SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS CALLING ON INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO WITHDRAW ITS ARMY FROM EAST TIMOR. AUSTRALIA HOVEWEVER DISREGARDED ALL THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS AND GAVE FULL RECOGNITION TO THE MILITARY OCCUPATION AND WENT ON TO SIGN THE "TIMOR GAP TREATY" WITH THE INDONESIAN MILITARY REGIME, TO JOINTLY EXPLOIT THE EAST TIMORESE OIL RESOURCES VIOLATING THIS TIME THE INTERNATIONAL LAW.

THEREFORE, MEMBERS OF THE EAST TIMORESE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE THE PRIME MINISTER TO EXPLAIN WHY HAS HE BEEN SHOWING CONTEMPT FOR THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LAW REGARDING EAST TIMOR, A COUNTRY WHERE ABOUT 40,000 EAST TIMORESE DIED FOR SUPPOTING THE AUSTRALIANS COMMANDOES DURING THE WORLD WAR II AND, SINCE DECEMBER 7th 1975, MORE THAN 200,000 OF 700,000 EAST TIMOR TOTAL POPULATION DIED AS A RESULT OF THE INDONESIAN INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF THE TERRITORY.

- FOR FUTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alfredo Ferreira, FRETILIN REPRESENTATIVE for Australia on 089-279177, after 2.30 p.m.